



OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL POLICY

KENTUCKY JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET

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3RD QUARTER, 2006

ODCP CONTINUES TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON MANY FRONTS



Karyn B. Hascal
Deputy Director

On September 7, 2006, over 700 people gathered on the Capitol steps in Frankfort to celebrate Recovery Month. Teresa Barton, deputy secretary of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and interim executive director of the Office of Drug Control Policy, read a proclamation issued by Governor Ernie Fletcher declaring September as Recovery Month. As the proclamation detailed, September is a time to raise awareness

of substance abuse education, treatment and prevention in the Commonwealth.

This year's theme "Join the Voices for Recovery: Build a Stronger, Healthier Community" was echoed by participants from all corners of the state. Speakers included federal and state policy makers, people in recovery from addiction and family members of those in recovery. The proclamation and speakers encouraged all citizens to "support individuals who are in recovery and salute the counseling and program staff who provide them with motivation and assistance along their journey."

During the 2004 Drug Summit Assessment, ODCP heard from thousands of citizens across Kentucky about the depth and breadth of substance abuse problems in communities. We have been able to follow that effort with specific research about the need for treatment among adolescents and adults across the state. The University of Kentucky Center on Drug and Alcohol Research (CDAR) published the 2004 Adult Needs Assessment. The report includes estimates of nicotine, alcohol and illicit drug abuse by adult Kentuckians as well as estimates of treatment need.

It is estimated that over 375,000 adult Kentuckians are in need of treatment for a drug or alcohol problem. Over 268,000 Kentuckians believe alcohol has been a problem for them at some point in their lives. Nearly 110,000 Kentuckians believe marijuana has been a problem for them. Over 80,000 adults report using methamphetamine, most of those users are men. An estimated 210,000 adults have used prescription or over-the-counter drugs "to get high." These numbers represent over 10% of Kentuckians who are in need of help for their problems with substance abuse.

Most recently, CDAR published the results of the 2005 Adolescent Needs Assessment concluding over 25,000 adolescents ages 12 to 17 years are in need of treatment for substance abuse problems. It is estimated nearly 100,000 of Kentucky's teenagers used alcohol in the past 30 days. Further, the study indicates over 75,000 of Kentucky's youth use tobacco products.

As a result of this survey, we know that Kentucky has the highest use of tobacco products by minors in the country and children start smoking at an earlier age in Kentucky than in other states. We have also learned an estimated 38,000 youth use illicit drugs (excluding alcohol and nicotine). In some regions of the state, sixteen year old students reports using prescription drugs heavily (six or more times per month) "to get high." These reports are used extensively in designing programs and initiatives to address substance abuse issues across the Commonwealth.

Recovery Kentucky, a program unveiled by Governor Fletcher in 2005, is designed to help those who are chronically homeless due to chemical dependency. It will create ten, 100 bed centers across the state to help people recover from addiction and gain control of

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their lives. The ground breaking process has already begun on several of the facilities. There will be five facilities for men and five for women located in all regions of the state. The programs are expected to begin providing services in 2007.

In 2005, Kentucky was awarded a large federal grant from the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. Eight high risk counties in Kentucky have been chosen to receive funds for intensive prevention initiatives. The designated counties were chosen based on Kentucky-specific data that looks at a variety of factors that make communities a high risk for continued substance abuse problems among youth. These counties are in the process of implementing the Strategic Prevention Framework and are receiving funds for prevention projects. Kentucky was one of six states in the

country to be awarded the opportunity to significantly impact their prevention system.

Drug abuse is a community problem. This public health epidemic affects all aspects of a community – families, employers, social organizations, etc. We must continue to direct our efforts towards keeping our communities, law enforcement officers, educators and medical professionals apprised of the current situation. It is imperative that we keep people informed and involved with what is going on with substance abuse problems.

I would encourage all Kentuckians to educate themselves about substance abuse, to become familiar with the issues and the people who are affected by this scourge.

EMERGING ISSUES FOR THE DRUG ENDANGERED CHILD



The effectiveness of Senate Bill 63, demonstrated by the dramatic reduction in reported methamphetamine labs in Kentucky, is good news for law enforcement, the environment and citizens. This also should offer a measure of protection for

children whose health can be compromised from exposure to meth production. However, as laws change, so will trafficking trends to meet the drug's demand.

As was the experience of western states, an increase in imported crystal methamphetamine has been noted. With this shift comes a shift in risk to children. A study by National Jewish Hospital has demonstrated that smoking methamphetamine poses risk to children by contaminating homes with chemical residue and trace amounts of methamphetamine. Health effects may be observed

in children living in these environments. However, they may be more difficult to identify because they appear less critical when presented for medical services.

As we learn more about the next phase of the methamphetamine epidemic, it will be important to continue monitoring the problem from a family-centered perspective. Recovery Kentucky will offer more opportunities for those in need of treatment services to receive them. As services become more available, it remains equally important that we develop a current awareness of the needs of children who experience exposure to drug activity, violence, neglect and possible physical or sexual abuse.

To become more involved in efforts to help drug endangered children in your community and to learn more about the Drug Endangered Child Training Network and the Kentucky Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, visit www.drugendangeredchild.org.

► Quick Facts About Children Involved in a Meth Lab

Symptoms of children living in a meth environment:

Chronic cough	Erratic sleeping habits
Skin rashes	Difficulty swallowing
Red, itchy eyes	Hypersensitivity to touch
Respiratory ailments	Insecure
Malnourished	Withdrawn
Poor hygiene	Low self-esteem

Statewide Children Involved at meth labs

*Numbers Provided by El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) through September 5, 2006

1998 – 3	2003 - 57
1999 – 12	2004 - 94
2000 – 33	2005 - 86
2001 – 34	2006 - 26

GOVERNOR FLETCHER BREAKS GROUND FOR RECOVERY KENTUCKY CENTER IN HOPKINSVILLE

Governor Ernie Fletcher visited Hopkinsville August 9 to break ground for the Trilogy Center for Women, a 35-unit female residential substance abuse center. The facility will provide counseling, support and hope for homeless women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction.

The development is part of Governor Fletcher's Recovery Kentucky initiative – a joint effort by the Governor's Office for Local Development (GOLD), Department of Corrections, Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) and Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) – to build housing recovery centers across the state. As transitional supportive housing developments, each center will use a recovery program model that includes peer support, daily living skills training, job responsibilities and challenges to practice sober living.

"The Recovery Kentucky initiative challenges participants to live more stable and productive lives by providing an opportunity to address the underlying problems of homelessness," said Governor Fletcher. "Women in Hopkinsville will have the supportive housing they need to combat drug and alcohol addiction and retain sobriety."

The lack of adequate program space in Hopkinsville indicates a particular need for a recovery center in the area. Currently, women in Western Kentucky must relocate outside their geographic area to access the supportive housing they need to retain their sobriety. When finished, the Trilogy Center will serve as many as 100 women at a time.

The center will be developed and operated by the Pennyroyal Regional Mental Health – Mental Retardation Board, Inc., a community mental health provider in Hopkinsville. Pennyroyal operates five clinics in the region, providing services to over 15,000 consumers each year for psychiatric services and case management.

"There are hundreds of women on waiting lists for substance abuse facilities in Western Kentucky," said Senator Joey Pendleton (D-Hopkinsville). "This new recovery center will go a long way towards addressing this need and will be a tremendous resource for the city of Hopkinsville and the entire area."



Recovery Kentucky centers are a service-based facility patterned after the self-help and education model used successfully at the Hope Center in Lexington and The Healing Place in Louisville. The centers provide shelter and a safe place to recover while providing peer support, daily living skills training, job responsibilities and challenges to practice sober living. The program has been named "A Model That Works" by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Recovery Kentucky program leverages funds from GOLD, KHC, ODCP and Department of Corrections.

Governor Fletcher also presented several other ceremonial checks on behalf of ODCP to:

► Pennyryle Drug Task Force - \$417,000. The task force provides drug enforcement to a 14-county region in Western Kentucky.

► Christian and Hopkins Counties to expand their treatment programming. The funding will provide substance abuse treatment for those incarcerated in the counties' correctional facilities.

Christian County received \$62,666 and Hopkins County received \$32,500. The programs were initiated in 2005 through a grant from ODCP.

► Pennyroyal Regional Prevention Center - \$69,396.43 to local officials for the Pennyroyal Regional Prevention Center. The center provides technical assistance to establish or maintain Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (ASAP) groups in eight counties (Caldwell, Christian, Crittenden, Hopkins, Lyon, Muhlenberg, Todd and Trigg).

REACH OF LOUISVILLE EVALUATES THE EAST KENTUCKY SCHOOLS "TOO GOOD FOR DRUGS" PROJECT

R.E.A.C.H. of Louisville announced its findings on the East Kentucky Schools Too Good for Drugs pilot project in August. The project focused on fifth-grade students in Clay, Floyd, Harlan, Johnson, Knott, Perry, Pike and Whitley Counties.

The Too Good for Drugs project was designed to reduce the intention to use alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs by placing drug prevention consultants in classrooms to teach the curriculum.

The Office of Drug Control Policy partnered with the Kentucky Center for School Safety and the Kentucky School Boards Association to implement the universal, school-based prevention program. The program focused on five skills to increase children's sense of control: responsibility, self-sufficiency goal setting and decision making, bonding with others, identifying and managing emotions and communicating effectively.

"This pilot project can count itself among other successful programs within the larger prevention system trying to stem the tide of a mature drug epidemic in Eastern Kentucky," said Benjamin W. Birkby, Psy.D., licensed psychologist and program evaluator, REACH of Louisville, Inc. "Results at the project level indicate that students made some statistically significant gains in their knowledge, skills and perceptions about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs."

"There is no question that substance abuse is a problem among our students," said Justice Cabinet deputy secretary and Office of Drug Control Policy interim executive director Teresa A. Barton. "That is why it is so important to see these positive results after just one year of the program. Keeping our young Kentuckians from using tobacco, alcohol and other drugs is worthy of the efforts of everyone involved."

"I am very pleased with the results, especially since it was our pilot year," stated Kentucky Center for School Safety training coordinator Tamara Tatum. "Now we have a guideline and we can look to see where improvements need to be made. Our goal was to equip the students with better decision making skills and help them understand there are options in how to say, No, and according to the findings, we accomplished that."

A paired-samples comparison of pre and post test surveys was completed across all participating schools. There were approximately 2,300 student participants during the 2005-2006 school year.

Too Good for Drugs™ is a comprehensive school-based drug prevention education program designed to teach all students that they are too good for drugs and to equip them with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to remain drug-free.

GOVERNOR FLETCHER AWARDS MORE THAN \$700,000 TO WESTERN KENTUCKY COUNTIES

Governor Ernie Fletcher awarded \$704,094 in grant money to local officials August 25 during the Bowling Green Chamber Breakfast. The funds – which will go to three drug task forces, a KY-ASAP Board, a Regional Prevention Center and Girls, Inc. – will be used for substance abuse prevention-education, law enforcement, treatment programs and repairs and renovations to the Girls, Inc. facility in Bowling Green.

"Getting drugs out of our communities is a top priority of this administration as we continue our work to make Kentucky communities safe," stated Governor Fletcher. "The organizations being funded today have proven track records of success. These dollars will assist in fulfilling their commitment to their communities."

"Drugs are a statewide problem; it doesn't stop at city and county lines," said Justice and Public Safety Cabinet deputy secretary and



ODCP interim executive director Teresa A. Barton. "We need to continue to work together to get rid of this problem that is ruining the lives of so many people in our state."

Warren County received \$145,000 for its drug task force. Butler, Logan and Simpson Counties were awarded \$95,000 for the South Central Drug Task Force. Barren and Edmonson Counties received \$105,000 for the Barren County Drug Task Force. Lifeskills RPC/Champions Coalitions in Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan and Metcalfe were awarded \$70,094 and the Warren County KY-ASAP local board received \$18,000 in funding.

UNITE HONORS OUTSTANDING ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS

Anti-drug efforts by individuals, coalitions and businesses throughout the Fifth Congressional District were honored September 8, during the first Operation UNITE “A Celebration of Communities in Action” education conference and awards ceremony.

The more than 900 people who participated in the conference, held at the University of the Cumberlands, also learned of a new state report that shows UNITE’s efforts have significantly impacted prescription narcotic use.

“It’s been a short few years since we started UNITE. Today’s event allows us to honor you for your dedication, commitment, tireless giving of yourself and your resources to make a difference,” said Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers. “And you are making a difference!”

Rogers cited several examples of UNITE’s successes:

- More than 1,500 drug dealers have been arrested
- More than \$6 million worth of drugs has been taken off the streets
- Drug Courts are operating in 28 UNITE counties
- More than 300 individuals have been assisted in finding treatment for substance abuse
- Community coalitions have been created in all 29 counties and on 10 college campuses
- UNITE Clubs have been created at 35 schools

The keynote speaker was Tom Zawacki, general manager of general administration for Toyota Motor Manufacturing/Kentucky.

Zawacki shared a special message about the importance of corporate citizenship and community involvement in the fight against drugs. He cited Toyota’s philosophy of teamwork, continuous improvement and other motivations driving the automotive giant to become one of the commonwealth’s top corporate citizens.

Saying Toyota wanted to lead by example, Zawacki presented UNITE a \$2,500 check to be used for UNITE Club programs throughout the district.

While law enforcement and treatment are critical components of UNITE’s overall anti-drug strategy, real long-term change is not possible without reaching out to youth who are struggling with drug abuse – either personally or through a family member, noted Karen Engle, executive director of UNITE.



To put the UNITE effort into perspective, a video was debuted featuring the personal stories of five young people whose lives have been dramatically turned upside down because of drugs.

“Listening to these stories is life-changing,” Rogers proclaimed. “I encourage each of you to just talk with our youth. You may be surprised to discover whose lives are being impacted by drugs. They are not seeking sympathy. They want someone to hear them, to understand their issues and help change the tide of abuse.”

Earlier in the day, representatives from KASPER (Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Report) reported a trend analysis of controlled substances from 2003 to 2005 that showed the region has experienced a significant decline in the number of prescribed narcotics.

Specifically, the Kentucky River region had a 9.25% decrease in prescribed narcotics, while the UNITE region as a whole showed a 4.4% decrease.

“Now that’s progress, and it’s all because of your efforts,” Rogers said. “But there is more to be done. We’re just starting. The fact of the matter is we need everyone involved.”

To honor the anti-drug efforts, UNITE presented 11 awards of excellence:

- Elementary School UNITE Club of the Year
– Paintsville Elementary (Johnson County)
- Middle School UNITE Club of the Year
– Whitesburg Middle (Letcher County)
- High School UNITE Club of the Year
– Jackson County High (Jackson County)
- Substance Abuse Counselor of the Year
– Sherri Gibbs (Whitley County)

- Recruiter of the Year
– Dwight Davis (Knox County)

- Innovative Project of the Year
– JULY JAM (Pike County)

- Mentor of the Year
– Henry Hughes (Harlan County)

- Cornerstone Award
– Barry Chaney (Pike County)

- Community Impact Project of the Year
– Clay County Court Watch

- UNITE Appreciation Award
– Whayne Supply Company

- Community Leader of the Year
– Doug Abner and Ken Bolin (Clay County)

“Today we paused to recognize those individuals who have made lasting impacts through their dedication and hard work and look ahead to great things yet to come,” Engle said. “There is much to celebrate as we move into the fourth year battling the drug scourge in Southern and Eastern Kentucky through a coordinated effort of investigations, treatment and education.”

GOVERNOR FLETCHER ANNOUNCES MORE THAN \$6.7 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN PIKE COUNTY

Governor Ernie Fletcher presented more than \$6.7 million in funding for projects during a ceremony at the Pikeville Fire Department Thompson Road station.

One of the funding presentations by the Governor was a ceremonial check from the Office of Drug Control Policy in the amount of \$750,000 to UNITE/WestCare Kentucky. Currently, the licensed facility has 45 beds for adult males who are dependent on alcohol, narcotics, methamphetamine and other drugs.

“Successfully salvaging lives from the indiscriminate destruction of substance abuse addiction means much more than merely arresting dealers and educating youth. It takes quality treatment facilities and intensive after-care support programs,” said Karen Engle, executive director of Operation UNITE. “In the past, Southern and Eastern Kentucky families faced immense obstacles to obtain treatment - both financial and a lack of treatment capacity - there simply weren’t enough beds to meet demand. Through the foresight of the Office of Drug Control Policy and WestCare Kentucky the future has become much brighter.”

“We are grateful the administration recognizes the need for substance abuse treatment for those individuals and families fighting the disease of addiction,” said Jenifer Noland, regional vice president WestCare Kentucky. “Drugs have paralyzed Eastern Kentucky long enough and with support from the community and government officials WestCare is committed to making an impact on this serious problem.”



WestCare Kentucky opened its long-term residential treatment facility on August 8, 2005, and it accepted its first client 14 days later.

Local officials also received funding to expand jail treatment programming in Pike County. The funding will provide substance abuse treatment for those incarcerated in the county correctional facilities.

“Getting dealers off the street is a critical component of our efforts, but true success will only come by putting broken lives and families back together,” stated General Norman E. Arfack, Justice & Public Safety Cabinet secretary. “We have a significant shortage of drug treatment facilities across the state. The money for Pike County Jail Treatment and the drug treatment center is absolutely essential to getting people the help they need.”

Pike County received \$30,249 and currently has 20 inmates in the program. ODCP has now helped fund 14 jail treatment programs across the state.